THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR

ESTABLISHED IN 1840

"And again, verily I say unto you, that which is governed by law is also preserved by law and perfected and sanctified by the same." DOCTRINE AND COVENANTS 88: 34.

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AFTER FIFTY YEARS*

ELDER JUNIUS F. WELLS

SENIOR MEMBER OF THE GENERAL BOARD, Y. M. M. I. A.

"THEN SHALT thou cause the trumpet of the jubilee to sound on the tenth day of the seventh month, in the day of atonement shall ye make the trumpet sound throughout all your land. And ye shall hallow the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof: it shall be a jubilee unto you." Lev. 25: 9, 10.

I have looked forward to the jubilee year of the Y. M. M. I. A. for a long time. It may be remembered that, speaking from this stand ten years ago next Wednesday, I foreshadowed our fiftieth anniversary, suggesting that it should be fittingly celebrated—especially by the consummation of three things—

1. That we should have a thousand associations and fifty thousand members.
2. That fifty per cent of our members should be actual observers of the Word of Wisdom.
3. That ten per cent of our members should certify to having read the Bible through—every word of it from lid to lid.

THE REALISATION

Officers and members of the Y. M. M. I. A., I congratulate you upon the realisation of the first of these forecasts. To-day we have in the Stakes and Missions more than one thousand associations and more than fifty thousand members.

*Address delivered in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Utah, at the forenoon session of the Jubilee Conference of the Mutual Improvement Associations, Sunday, June 7th, 1925.

I hope—well I will say I believe—at least fifty per cent of these are actual observers of the Word of Wisdom—they do not use tobacco—they do not drink hot or strong drink—they are sincerely trying to do and to keep the commandments of God that they may realise and rejoice in the wonderful promises of that revelation.

As to the third—the reading of the Bible through—I suppose that we have been negligent and have not followed that up—at least we have no reports nor certification of the fact.

It is now too late to secure these for this year; but it is not too late to begin to prepare for them; and much may be done before the year is over towards securing a splendid showing for our next annual report.

"THE ROOT"

That brings me to the prime purpose of this jubilee conference. At the annual reunion and banquet of the General Boards, March 18th, 1925, I responded to the toast "The Root" and in it expressed my thought about as follows:

"Let us begin forthwith to prepare the ground; roll off the rocks, grub out the sagebrush and, ladies, permit me to suggest that you might find it helpful to gently top off some of the empty-headed sun-flowers and smudge the thistle-down—which are beautiful to look at but pernicious when the frivolous breezes of the summer time shake their unfruitful substance to the ground, polluting the pure seed we are trying to propagate there. Let us send out our notices, advertise our intention to celebrate our jubilee jubilantly; call the youth of Zion to attention by the clarion voice of all the authority here present; then, at our conference in June, sow the seed, broadcast it abundantly on this good ground that it may take root downwards, and for the rest of the year cultivate, nourish, develop the root with vigilance and great care.

"We shall be disappointed then, indeed, if we do not get many, very many of our members on their feet bearing testimony, with delight in the exercise of the gift of God that is within them.

"We wish to get every member of the Y. M. M. I. A., and of the Y. L. M. I. A. also, down on their knees praying to know, and up on their feet testifying that 'Mormonism' is in fact the Church of Jesus Christ and the Kingdom of God on earth. We can hope to do this by taking the double course mentioned by President Brigham Young when he said: 'As many people have obtained a testimony while on their feet bearing it, as down on their knees praying for it.'"

"SOWING THE SEED"

The program committee, you will observe, have generously provided in the varied and splendid exercises of the conference, opportunity for "sowing the seed", that is for bearing our testimonies to each other and broadcasting them to the world. I said generously—perhaps from my point of view this is an exaggeration—for I am quite intent upon maintaining this exercise

fundamentally and continuously and profusely in all our gatherings, in the ward association meetings, in our stake conventions and in our annual conferences. I believe I am regarded as extreme in this. I have been told that some one said: "If Brother Junius F. Wells had his way and could arrange the program he would have every one of our hundred thousand members bear testimony at the Jubilee Conference."

Well, I presume, that is more or less true, and, in some manner, it is more or less true that he is having his way, for in the five days' celebration, which we have so happily begun, the combined testimony of these two great organisations will be expressed in such a manner that all our people, and, indeed, civilised mankind generally, will be better informed and be bound to take notice of our existence as a Mutual Improvement Association of young men and young women having no equal or counterpart in any other church or community of equal numbers upon the earth.

TRIBUTE TO PIONEER LEADER

Upon the occasion of our first general annual conference held in this building, June 2nd and 3rd, 1888 (we had held many single session semi-annual conferences before), in an epistle of the General Superintendency, addressed to the officers and members of the Y. M. M. I. A. throughout Zion, the following tribute to the M. I. A. pioneer of us all, President Brigham Young, was read. I quote from it:

"An appropriate time has been chosen on which to hold your first general annual conference, for it is eminently fitting that the young men of Israel should thus honour the illustrious statesman, coloniser and Prophet, Brigham Young, by holding their conference meetings on a day so near the anniversary of his birth. He was inspired to organise the Mutual Improvement Associations throughout Zion. With delight you can revere his memory; for distrust of the young men of Israel never marred his great mind. In them he had unbounded confidence, and for them unlimited love. The Almighty endowed him with the faculty of reading men more accurately and more thoroughly than most people read books. The study of human hearts and the analyses of human minds enabled him to distinguish between the good and the bad. By the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, frauds stood rebuked, while the sincere rejoiced in his presence, and were comforted by his love. Noting the yearly harvest of death, and comprehending as few men comprehend the magnitude of the great work in which we are engaged, he fully sensed the responsibility that must ultimately rest upon you in bearing to a victorious consummation the Church and Kingdom of God."

BEARING WITNESS TO-DAY

We are here, Uncle Brigham (with apologies to General Pershing); President Brigham Young, we are here, standing on our feet fifty thousand of us, in this year of jubilee—bearing our testimonies, as you said that we should fifty years ago, on the

10th of June, 1875, and bearing witness to-day that you were a Prophet of God.

You M. I. A. pioneers lift up your hearts and honour the memory of the M. I. A. pioneer of us all, President Brigham Young.

We are here, President John Taylor, "as aids, helps and governments to the Priesthood of the Church and the Kingdom of God," as you said we should be, on that morning in your office in the spring of 1878, when you sent Elder Milton H. Hardy and me to organise the Stake Superintendencies. Are we aids, helps and governments in the Church? Consider the poll of its officials, just taken, from the President down to its Bishops. We sent out twenty-six hundred cards to them in April, asking for an appreciation of our help to them. We have returns from two-thirds of them. Their universal testimony is that as such, our service has been valuable beyond expression. I presume that nine-tenths of its officers to-day have been members of the associations. And so, President Taylor, we honour your memory as a Prophet of God.

NEVER A DAY SINCE

We are here, President Wilford Woodruff, bearing off the responsibilities of the Church and Kingdom of God, as the Lord revealed it to you, when your heart was faint with fear concerning the youth of Israel and you sought the Lord in the woods of Arizona in 1885 to know somewhat of the future, when it was revealed to you that the Lord already had among the youth of his people those who would bear off the Kingdom triumphantly, and you were commanded to cease your troubling on the matter. You did so, and there has never been a day since when it has not been perfectly apparent that there were young men and boys fit to be and to become leaders of God's people. And so, dear President Woodruff, beloved of us all as our First General Superintendent, we honour your memory and praise you as an inspired seer of the future and a Prophet of God.

We are here, President Lorenzo Snow, though some have died and passed to their reward whom you admonished that day in 1899, and promised that if we would pay our tithes and keep the Word of Wisdom that we should never deny the faith. Those of us that have gone, died in the faith. God help the rest of us that we may do so, and continue to prove you, President Snow, a leader in righteousness and a Prophet of God.

ON THE WAY

We are here, Brother Joseph F., to show you that we are on the way to become "the head and not the tail" among people, as you said that we should when you spoke at the M. I. A. Conference in October, 1883, and the Spirit of the Lord prompted you to say:

"The day will come, and it is not as far away as some suppose, when

it will be deemed a great honour to be identified with this Association and this people. We may be scoffed at by the ignorant of the world, but the well-read and intelligent have ceased to look upon us with contempt. While they do not know that we are right, they are afraid that we may be. The day will come when Zion will be the head and not the tail, when God will sit among His people, and the wicked look upon them with awe."

That is but one of scores, perhaps hundreds, of prophetic utterances of our beloved leader, friend, brother. He never grew old, as some men do with the lapse of years; but he was in heart and sympathy, in loyal devotion and love the same young man among young men to the last—so long our counselor, guide, and General Superintendent. Blessed is the memory of President Joseph F. Smith. "He was a man; take him for all in all, we shall not look upon his like again."

WITH LOFTY AIM

We are here, Brother Moses, as so many times, in the best and happiest days of your life, you thrilled the hearts of thousands, when with rare eloquence in the light of the spirit of your calling and with perfervid pen, you pointed the way with lofty aim to every triumph that youth can aspire to. Happy are the memories, Elder Thatcher, of those days, when they were glorified by the inspiration of God in you.

We are here, John Henry Smith, you foresaw it even from the first. Do you remember, when you wrote in the *Deseret News*, March 16th, 1876, and commended Elders Hardy and Young to the consideration of the people on their first tour of the Territory—you said: "Our labours up to the present have been attended with success and we have bright prospects for the future." Another time, when we organised the Cottonwood Association, in December, 1876, you promised the boys lives of usefulness and old age of honour if they pursued the course of the M. I. A. I had a letter yesterday from one of these boys. He is seventy-five now and a Patriarch in the Church. And so, Brother John Henry, you are also among the prophets.

We are here, father, as you so constantly and so boldly declared that we should be. Your memory is precious above all. I can not speak of it; but will let one speak who wrote to me when your call came and you passed from among us. He referred to one of the most important meetings ever held by the officers of the Associations. It was in 1888, when we were introducing the first year's course of reading. President Woodruff, Elders Erastus Snow and Moses Thatcher and other leading men were there, and the meeting was one of thrilling interest. Elder Thatcher wrote me at the time of my father's funeral:

THE TREAD OF COMING ISRAEL

"I shall never forget the inspirational remarks made by your father

in the old Social Hall on the occasion of a Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association gathering there, when he spoke so beautifully about the tread of coming Israel, whose footsteps he could hear, and they were music in his ears. The light of heaven shone in his grand lion-like face, the wrinkles of which were softened and made to glow like rays from the throne of God. The sound of the tread of Israel's approaching triumph and glory will ever be in his ears in the land of peace and eternal progress whither he has gone."

And so, President Daniel H. Wells was a prophet. He saw, in as clear a vision as ever comes to men, the tramping of the multitude of the sons and daughters of Zion, which you will all see in verity next Wednesday in the Parade of the Banners.

IMMENSITY OF SERVICE

We are here, Dr. Hardy. I wonder if you are happy in the consciousness of the fruition of your stupendous labour; for it was you who lived and moved and had your being as in a grammatical diagram, so methodical and logical were you; you that systematised our work; you that laid the foundation of all our Manuals and prescribed the courses of progressive study in the Associations; you who first distributed tracts of the first principles among the young men of Zion and taught them to read religion rather than trash, to form cabinets and study Nature rather than roll cigarettes in wanton idleness, to be gentlemen, when so many of them were hoodlums. Who shall measure the immensity of your service as an organiser, instructor and faithful servant of the young men of Zion? No man deserves higher praise than Dr. Milton H. Hardy from the Y. M. M. I. A., and so we honour your memory to-day, dear friend and fellow-labourer, among the highest.

It is hard to think of you and not mention that grand old stalwart whom you discovered, who became your chief lieutenant and collaborator in enlarging the scope and field of the Manuals, that you had pioneered. Where are you, Dr. George H. Brimhall? Oh, he is here and shall speak for himself before the conference is over. He is like a river of living water flowing down from the mountains, spreading itself in directed channels over fertile fields, producing annually—perennially—as the fruit of his husbandry, great crops of converts in boys and young men of character, some thirty, some sixty and some a hundred fold.

Now I cannot name the names and speak in detail of all those who in the early decade, or the two or three decades, were the hard workers, the inspired leaders among the Associations. I can only congratulate them, living and dead, and in loving camaraderie mention a few (those I omit are just as dear) and say to them:

We are here, Rodney Badger, Nephi Clayton, Benjamin Cummings, Jr., Richard W. Young, George F. Gibbs, John Nicholson, Orson F. Whitney, Joseph A. West, Benjamin Cluff, Jr., George

C. Lambert, Lyman R. Martineau, Edward H. Anderson, James H. Anderson, Thomas Hull, Moroni Snow, James E. Talmage, Brigham H. Roberts, Anthony W. Ivins. I say we are here in the realisation, if not wholly, in great part of all that you dared to hope for—that you strove with earnest zeal to make us. When I reflect upon the varied contributions given direct to our magazines and standard books, covering the basic studies of our organisation, religious, scientific, historical, literary, coming from the deep thonghts, flowing lucidly from the talented pens of the Andersons, Nephi and Edward H., of Dr. Talmage and notably of Elder B. H. Roberts, my heart is full of gratitude to them; and I bless the memory of those that have died, and I praise to your faces those of you who were the early propagandists of our cause; you so true and faithful, who still abide, exemplars of its worth—an inspiration to all who seek the benefits and blessings of the M. I. A.

(*Continued on page 441*)

THE GLORY OF THE EVER POSSIBLE

ALL COMMON THINGS, each day's events
That with the hour begin and end,
Our pleasures and our discontents,
Are rounds by which we may ascend.

Standing on what too long we bore
With shoulders bent and downcast eyes,
We may discern—unseen before—
A path to higher destinies;

Nor deem the irrevocable past
As wholly wasted, wholly vain;
If, rising on its wrecks, at last
To something nobler we attain.

LONGFELLOW

MAN IS A DUAL BEING, a composite of physical and spiritual organisms, a union of body and spirit. That any one really believes himself to be nothing but a body of flesh, bones, and other material tissues, is questionable. Even the observations and deductions of science, to say nothing of the definite word of revealed truth, demonstrate the presence of an animate entity in the person, which, while in most intimate association and complete interpenetration with the bodily tissues, is nevertheless distinct therefrom. That living something is the spirit, which existed as an intelligent being before the body was begotten, and which shall live on after the corporeal structure has gone to decay.—J. E. T.

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR

THURSDAY, JULY 9, 1925

EDITORIAL

GENERAL AUTHORITIES OF THE CHURCH

In our last issue we printed a complete list of the General Authorities of the Church as now constituted. It has long been an editorial custom, as pertaining to this magazine, to make such publication at yearly or shorter intervals, so that our readers may be kept familiar with the names of their Church leaders, and in order that the roll may be of ready access for conferences at which these names are presented before the members for their vote of support.

The list as published includes twenty-six names, and, as stated, is complete. The General Authorities comprise, in the order here given:

The First Presidency
The Council of the Twelve Apostles
The Presiding Patriarch
The First Seven Presidents of the Seventies
The Presiding Bishopric

In addition to these, there are *General Officers*, having jurisdiction, within their subjective assignments, throughout the Church. Of this class the Church Historian and members of the General Board of Education are examples.

We have also numerous and graded *Officers*, each with limitations of jurisdiction both as to the nature of his appointed service and the territory within which he functions. In this classification come the Presidents of Temples, Stake Presidencies, Ward Bishoprics, and Presidents of Missions. Under the direction of each of these officers or official bodies are *Associate* or *Assistant Officers*, such as High Councilors, Ward Teachers and Presiding Elders within the Stakes; Conference Presidents, Traveling Elders and Branch Presidencies in the Missions.

This partial classification does not include Priesthood quorums, or any of the Auxiliary Organisations; for, important as all of these are, they do not fall in the line of executive responsibilities especially contemplated herein.

The distinction between General Authorities and General Officers should be kept in mind. The latter are appointed and directed by the former. General Authorities are essential to the administration of the revealed plan of Church government. To

them apply with especial significance the Lord's words concerning the two orders of Priesthood:

"Of necessity there are presidents, or presiding officers growing out of, or appointed of or from among those who are ordained to the several offices in these two priesthoods." Doctrine and Covenants 107 : 21.

While the plural noun "authorities" in its special dictionary usage, meaning "persons in power", is sometimes loosely applied to any or all officers, it is more properly restricted to those holding high and responsible positions, with corresponding degrees of discretionary rights.

In the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints the expression "General Authorities" or its equivalent "Authorities of the Church" can be properly applied only to the bearers of the offices listed in this writing— twenty-six men. All other officials are officers of the Church or of some of its departments, divisions or subdivisions; and they operate under the direction of the General Authorities. Of these the First Presidency constitute the governing council; and of the three Presiding High Priests composing this body, the first is President of the Church, further designated as "President of the High Priesthood of the Church." The revelation reads as follows:

"Then comes the High Priesthood, which is the greatest of all. Wherefore, it must needs be that one be appointed of the High Priesthood to preside over the priesthood, and he shall be called President of the High Priesthood of the Church; Or, in other words, the Presiding High Priest over the High Priesthood of the Church. From the same comes the administering of ordinances and blessings upon the Church, by the laying on of the hands." Doctrine and Covenants 107: 64-67.

This system of organisation and government is a convincing proof of Divine commission in the reestablishment of the Church of Jesus Christ in these, the last days, constituting what is verily the Dispensation of the Fulness of Times.—J. E. T.

AFTER FIFTY YEARS

(*Concluded from page 439*)

Now I must conclude with one other personal allusion and a comment on our Memorial Banner.

We are here, Brother Heber. Look upon these assembled hosts and let your heart rejoice—that great heart of yours which from the first has throbbed with fervent hope and earnest prayer, with abounding faith, and never with despair. You know that this Mutual Improvement work is of the Lord. You know, as I do, that but for the favour and blessing of the Almighty it would not have survived and grown and prospered as we now behold

it. You know and have often declared it that God heard and answered your prayer when you sought Him to take the place and part in it that your heart desired—the great and noble part you so diligently, untiringly performed, and from which you have derived benefits beyond your "power to express." You also are among the prophets—a true and faithful servant of the people. Lord bless you, President Heber J. Grant, for ever, and let all Israel say Amen.

THE M. I. A. BANNER

Now, my brethren and sisters, you have listened to me with much fortitude and patience and I shall not detain you much longer; but I want you to look upon our new banner. You will see the Pioneer Banner, which was carried in the Jubilee celebration of the Church on the 24th of July, 1880, by Elder Horace H. Cummings, on a big bay horse, forty-five years ago. He is going to carry it again next Wednesday on a big bay horse (not the same horse) and I intend to ride behind it in an automobile as I walked behind it on that other occasion.

Now to lead our great Parade of the Banners and to celebrate our fiftieth Y. M. M. I. A. anniversary, we have had a new banner made, in which I trust we shall take pride and pleasure. It is not only intended to commemorate this Jubilee, but it is designed also to memorialise a somewhat closer union than heretofore of the Young Ladies' Association with ours, upon their gracious acceptance of our motto which henceforth has become theirs. This motto was first brought out in relation to the M. I. A. work on the sub-title page of *The Contributor*, Vol 1, No. 12, and continued thereafter in all the seventeen volumes of that magazine and in its successor, *The Improvement Era*.

THE GLORY OF GOD IS INTELLIGENCE

Let us pause for a moment and consider this motto. Whence comes it?

Not from the Psalms of David nor the Proverbs of Solomon, nor from the wisdom of Job nor the poetic flights of Isaiah. Not anywhere in the Bible is it found. Nor fell it from the lips of Nephi or Alma or Mosiah or Moroni. It is not in the Book of Mormon.

Nowhere in the writings of the great philosophers, in the rhapsodies of the Christian Fathers, in the homilies and sermons of the Doctors of Divinity of olden or modern times shall you find this simple sentence.

We must go to the revelation of God Himself for its origin. Spoken to the Prophet of the last dispensation, recorded and given to men by Joseph Smith, the youth that was unlearned, came this incomparable combination of six words at once forming

the most perfect and significant sentence of any language—"*The Glory of God is Intelligence.*"

"THE POWER TO KNOW"

Let us examine them. I do not think the word "intelligence" should be taken in its narrower definition, meaning to have information; but in its truer and broader significance—"the power to know." This is the Godly gift, which distinguishes and elevates created man above all other created beings, and qualifies him to name and govern and have dominion over them. Yet how far beneath is he by comparison—only a little child in intelligence—though a son of God with the right of inheritance, the ambition and faith to attain the perfection of the Father, whose greater intelligence knoweth and comprehendeth man himself—his origin and existence in spirit and body, mortal and immortal, everlasting! Who also knoweth the marvels and mysteries of every created earthly thing great and small, in all their generations and development; together with the wonders of the starry heavens and the laws of their control and governance. By what power cometh this vast knowledge? Intelligence—the power to know. Possessed in part it is the impulse, the sure guide, the safe director, which leads man in his spiritual and temporal career onward and upward to the heights of heaven. *Possessed in its perfection it is the glory of God.* Personified, it is God; to whom we lift up our hearts in adoration and love; before whom we humbly bow down and worship in spirit and in truth. Amen.

OUR M. I. A. JUBILEE

MAY BOOTH TALMAGE

Member of the General Board of the Y. L. M. I. A.

ANNIVERSARIES AND JUBILEES, commemorative of really great events, are of lasting value aside from the pleasure found in their celebration and the remembrance thereof. They are as peaks of observation, summits of time, from which one may measure the achievements of the past and look with confident trust ahead. Moreover, the glory of the scene itself is inspiring.

In reviewing the elaborate program so impressively carried out at Salt Lake City, Utah, June 5th to 11th, incident to the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of our Mutual Improvement Associations, one could fain wish for a pen of magic with which to summarise and condense while yet adequately presenting the vivid and soul-stirring pictures of the magnificent portrayal. During four days of continuous activity the events were of such varied character and elaborate settings as to prompt the use of superlatives to an extent seldom justified. Had each of the

presentations stood alone it would be accorded prominent place as an occurrence of historic importance; but, taken together, the great events constitute an enduring testimony of marvelous achievement.

Should there be some who are but little acquainted with the Associations under whose auspices this memorable jubilee was held, they are referred to the Editorial in the issue of June 25th and to the first article in the current number of this magazine. The occasion of the celebration, as set forth in the writings specified, was that of commemorating the origin of the two organisations. Let it be remembered, however, that the Young Ladies' Association had a beginning six years earlier than that of the Young Men, and held a memorable jubilee celebration in 1919.

Months of preparation preceded the combined celebration of the current year; and so wide-spread and deep was the interest of the members that many of them traveled thousands of miles within the United States, and great companies journeyed from Canada and from Mexico, to rejoice in and be partakers of the blessings of that epoch-making occasion.

The outstanding features were classified as follows: (1) General Assemblies; (2) Departmental Work; (3) Contests; (4) Social Gatherings; (5) Recreational Activities—both indoors and in the open air; (6) the Pageant; (7) Parade of the Banners.

All of the General Assemblies were attended by such throngs as rendered the world-famed Tabernacle wholly inadequate. The great structure was crowded to its capacity of approximately ten thousand auditors at every session, and thousands more stood without, unable to enter. These sessions were blessed by the presence of most of the General Authorities of the Church; and, especially designated as guests of honour were many who had been identified with Mutual Improvement work in the beginning, some of whom have been continuously active therein ever since. The music throughout was of the highest order, and comprised solos, duets, trios, quartets, choruses—one made up of four hundred children of the Primary Association—and the usual renditions on the Great Organ and by the justly famous Tabernacle Choir. The addresses were replete with historic recital, reminiscent of the growth and development of the Associations, with their striking contrast of simple beginnings—numbering ten and eighteen members respectively—and the present splendidly organised, efficiently officered bodies with a combined membership of a hundred thousand. Yes, the beginnings were small, humble, unobtrusive; but so is the seed from which the forest giant springs. In those simple beginnings the spirit of Mutual Improvement was operative; and, since it is the spirit that giveth life, the otherwise inexplicable growth and development of the organisations through these fifty years, while none the less marvelous, is simple because natural.

The Departmental Work was carried out with splendid success, somewhat on the plan of a training-school program. To that school flocked thousands of Stake and Ward officers, eager to prepare themselves for the practical work of the coming year. The instruction they received, the practice in which they participated, and above all the inspiration incident to their sincerity of purpose, the occasion and the environment, will be borne, like sacred fire from the altar, into all their abiding places, and the effect thereof will be manifest throughout the Church. This phase of the work was a college course of intensive training for the teachers and leaders of the youth of Israel.

Under the head of Contests, emulative and friendly competitions, for which painstaking preparation had been made, included the following features: public speaking; musical renditions, comprising band work, chorus and other singing. Fifty-two divisions took part in the preliminary try-outs; and after graded elimination the winners were given place on the final program, and furnished an evening of rare enjoyment for the assembled hosts fortunate enough to gain admission into the Tabernacle. One unit came from Los Angeles, California—eight hundred miles distant—to participate in this event. Who can measure the uplifting effect of the months of preparatory training for an occasion so stupendous?

Among the Social Functions were some that will endure as shining lights in the memories of those who were privileged to take part. Perhaps some who make their pilgrimage to Rome to attend a great ecclesiastical celebration, and who are permitted to meet their acknowleged spiritual leaders may, in a measure, understand the appreciation of the young people who were invited to the reception given by the two M. I. A. General Boards in honour of the General Authorities of our Church. The magnificent Administration Building was thrown open for the first time as a place of social gathering; and for hours a great concourse of visitors threaded the stately rooms, and rejoiced in the privilege of meeting face to face, and of grasping hand to hand, the noble men and women who have been called to positions of presidency in the Church as a whole and in the Auxiliaries.

Recreational activities were conducted by specialists in the several departments. The indoor features were demonstrated in the splendidly equipped Deseret Gymnasium and in other suitable buildings; while the outdoor events, suggestive of the Olympic games, were witnessed by great multitudes in beautiful Liberty Park, with its lovely lake, its wealth of flowers, shrubbery and trees, and its background of everlasting hills.

One hesitates even to attempt a brief description of the two remaining features, the Pageant and the Parade, knowing how futile the effort must be when one needs the aid of eyes and ears to catch the colourful effects and the music of the joyous voices

that one may feel the inspiration of demonstrations such as these. For the Pageant the setting was truly gorgeous. The Tabernacle was profusely decorated in the official colours of the Associations—green, typifying youth and growth, and gold, as an emblem of the glory of achievement. "The Torch of Inspiration" was the theme. Here is a descriptive bit by one who saw and then wrote as appears in the *Deseret News* of June 9th:

"Principles and ideals, which inspired the organisation of the Mutual Improvement Association, present achievements in planting the seeds of manhood and womanhood in the lives of young people, and visions of what the future holds forth to all who will hold high the flaming torch of knowledge and inspiration—these things were definitely and dramatically impressed on the thousands who filled the Tabernacle and bulged its doors Monday night to witness the mammoth pageant "The Torch of Inspiration."

"The words engraved in the arch above the upper stage—*The Glory of God is Intelligence*—set forth the keynote of the entire production. Inspiration was held to be the light of the world, the hope of the nations, through which man may achieve his destiny and carry to glorious completion his work upon the earth."

The Parade of the Banners will be remembered as an event of historic significance; and children who witnessed it will tell the tale to their posterity. The following excerpts from our home paper will aid the reader in visioning the scene:

"Twelve thousand young, enthusiastic and earnest M. I. A. workers from every Western State, from Canada and Mexico, formed a living rainbow which glided through the green and gold streets of Salt Lake, Wednesday, in one of the most colourful spectacles this city has ever witnessed and one which will long be remembered by the many thousands lining three miles of the city's thoroughfares—the Parade of Banners of the Golden Jubilee Conference of the Mutual Improvement Associations of the Church. It was a picture of beauty that can be seen only in Salt Lake, for nowhere else could such a splendid aggregation of young men and women be gathered together. For hours before the magnificent procession the main business section of the city was a seething mass of good-natured humanity which lustily cheered the marching thousands on their three-mile trek. . . . The vivid pageantry of youth marching to its place in the next generation of workers really started when the new M. I. A. banner swept into line at the head of Main Street. Erect, confident and soldier-like was the proud Boy Scout escort of the huge banner proclaiming that, at the Golden Jubilee, a hundred thousand young men and women are pledged to the principles for which it stands."

Great was the Jubilee! Glorious shall be its effect in the lives of the Latter-day Saints! The import of this surpassing demonstration was fittingly recognised by others than members of the Church of which the Mutual Improvement Associations form an integral part. On the reviewing stand at the Parade, in addition to the First Presidency, members of the Council of the Twelve,

and others of the General Anthorities of the Church, were the Governor of the State of Utah, a former Governor of the State who was also Grand Marshal of the day, the Mayor of Salt Lake City, the United States Army Commandant of Fort Douglas with his staff, and representatives of Federations and Clubs. Thus was acknowledged by high official presence the worth of the Mutual Improvement cause in the affairs of Church, City, and State.

With such a record as that of the past five decades, what may we not hope for the future? The spirit of Mutual Improvement is vital and eternal!

FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Concert—On Saturday, June 20th, a well-prepared concert was given at Leeds under the auspices of the Leeds Branch Sunday School.

Release—Elder Elmer H. Lloyd, who has labonred in the Birmingham and Free State Conferences, has been honourably released. He sailed for home Friday, July 3rd, per s.s. *Montroyal*.

Missionary Meetings—Of the Liverpool Conference at Blackburn on Saturday, June 27th, at which encouraging reports were given of work done at street meetings.

Of the Sheffield Conference at Sheffield on June 27th.

Branch Conference—Blackburn (Liverpool Conference) on Sunday, June 28th. The speakers were President Rulon W. Openshaw, and Elders James M. Armstrong, Adrain V. Toolson and Elwood G. Meadows.

Socials—Wolverhampton Branch (Birmingham Conference) on Thursday, June 25th. Games, recitations and songs were enjoyed by those present.

A farewell social was held in Sheffield on Tuesday, June 23rd, in honour of Elder Albert G. Stanger, who has been transferred to the London Conference.

Baptisms—On June 26th a baptismal service was held at Handsworth (Birmingham Conference). One candidate was baptised by Elder Lester D. Hovey and confirmed by President Alvah N. Stout.

Services were held in Sheffield on June 26th. Elder Clyde R. Service administered the ordinance and the candidate was confirmed by President O. David Merrill.

DEATHS

BRIERLEY—On Sunday, May 31st, Sister Mary Ann Brierley of the Bolton Branch (Manchester Conference) died at her home in Bury. Deceased was born December 18th, 1853, and since accepting the Gospel, twenty years ago, has been a stalwart defender of the faith, and was instrumental in bringing many others to a knowledge of it. She leaves a daughter and two sons, one of whom is in America. Funeral services were held on June 4th, when President Ronald D. McGregor and Elder J. H. Holden were the speakers. Elder Charles A. Halverson dedicated the grave.

SMITH—After an illness of a few weeks, Eileen, the little daughter of David and Evelyn Winspur Smith, died at Glasgow, Scotland, on June 1st. The child was born July 31st, 1923, and blessed by Elder Glen A. Finlayson, August 12, 1923. Funeral services were held at the Smith home. President Junius S. Romney and Elder Reed E. Callister were the speakers.

PROVAN—Sister Jeannie Provan, twenty-one years old, died at Glasgow, Scotland, on June 2nd, after an illness of many months. She was baptised June 2nd, 1923, by Elder John C. Bell, and confirmed by Elder John Hunter. Funeral services were held at the Provan home on June 5th. President Junius S. Romney officiated. Elder Jesse W. Thomson dedicated the grave.

TAYLOR—Sister Florence Taylor of the Blackburn Branch (Liverpool Conference) died June 7th, after a short illness. She was born January 19th, 1910, and in April, 1921, was baptised by Elder William J. Starkey and confirmed by Elder James H. Western. Sister Taylor was an active and faithful Sunday School and Mutual worker. Funeral services were held at the home on June 11th under the direction of President Rulon W. Openshaw. Over one hundred people assembled to pay their last respects to this beloved sister.

BREESE—Salina Breese of the Handsworth Branch (Birmingham Conference) passed away at her home, on June 17th. She was born June 9th, 1869, and was baptised September 30th, 1906. Elder Morgan Hawkes dedicated the grave.

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LIVERPOOL

FOR SALE IN ALL THE CONFERENCES OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS IN GREAT BRITAIN